



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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American Folklore Theatre Announces "Raise the Curtain" Kick-Off Party

Door County, WI - Join American Folklore Theatre as it kicks off another great season of original shows at its sixth annual "Raise the Curtain" kick-off party, set for Sunday, May 24 at the Alpine Resort in Egg Harbor. A social hour will begin the evening at 5:00 pm, with a sit-down dinner to follow at 6:00 pm. Following dinner AFT company members will entertain you with songs from our 2009 season productions as well as favorites of their own.

AFT is thrilled to stage three World Premieres in 2009. Our summer season will feature: ***Cheeseheads, the Musical***, a new book musical by Paul Libman and Dave Hudson (no it is not about the Packers); ***Sunsets & S'mores*** created by Doc Heide, Lee Becker, and Matt Zembrowski (a concert commissioned by the Friends of Peninsula State Park in celebration of the Park's 100th birthday), and the reprise of the audience favorite, ***Muskie Love***. This fall, ***Guys & Does***, a new book musical by Doc Heide, Lee Becker, and Paul Libman will take the stage at Ephraim Village Hall. Come and join in the excitement.

Since its inception in 2003, "Raise the Curtain" has been a huge success - over 175 people have attended each of the last five years, and a combined total of over \$25,000 has been raised to ensure that ticket prices remain affordable for families. The event is a great way for the Door County community and visitors to join in the excitement of AFT's upcoming season. Enjoy a delicious dinner (your choice of Broiled Whitefish, Roast Pork, or Egg plant stuffed Portabella) with a cash bar as you mingle with fellow AFT supporters and the wonderful company members who grace our stage as well as work behind the scenes. Door County businesses and Wisconsin theatres have donated great items for our silent auction--you may just be a lucky winner.

Tickets for "Raise the Curtain" are \$40 for adults and \$15 for children 12 and under. If patrons would like to make a further donation, they can choose to sponsor an AFT company member for an additional \$40. AFT invites all

company members and administration to attend the event free of charge – to thank them in advance for the successful season that is to come. Reservations are due Monday, May 18.

"Raise the Curtain" is part of Curtain Call, American Folklore Theatre's fundraising event series that premiered in 2003. All monies raised through Curtain Call go to AFT's General Operations Fund, to ensure that ticket prices remain affordable for families. Help AFT "raise the curtain" on another great season! For more information, or to register for "Raise the Curtain" please call the AFT office at (920) 854-6117. Please reserve your seats early - this event will sell out quickly.

American Folklore Theatre is a non-profit professional theatre organization that produces original musical shows in repertory from June through August. AFT continues its performances into the fall with shows in Door County town halls September through October. American Folklore Theatre is a member of Theatre Wisconsin and the Theatre Communications Group (TCG), organizations that promote non-profit professional theatre. For more information on American Folklore Theatre, please call the AFT Office at (920) 854-6117 or visit the AFT web site at www.folkloretheatre.com.

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